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E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PGOV PO
SUBJ: NOBRE DA COSTA'S GOVERNMENT: THE CABINET

REF: LISBON 5977

1. PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE NOBRE DA COSTA (BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION REPORTED REFTEL) WAS FORMALLY NOMINATED AUGUST 28 BY PRESIDENT EANES. HE AND HIS 14-MINISTER CABINET WERE SWORN IN AUGUST 29. ACCORDING TO FINANCE MINISTER-DESIGNATE SILVA LOPES, THE NEW GOVERNMENT HOPES TO PRESENT ITS PROGRAM TO THE ASSEMBLY BY SEPT. 11. ALTHOUGH TECHNICALLY NOBRE DA COSTA WILL BE PRIME MINISTER FROM THE MOMENT HE IS SWORN IN, ANY OFFICIAL MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATION SHOULD AWAIT COMPLETION OF THE ASSEMBLY'S REVIEW OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM. BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AND PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON THE NEW MINISTERS FOLLOW.

2. MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO: DR. CARLOS COSTA FREITAS. COSTA FREITAS, ABOUT 50, IS A LAWYER AND A FORMER PORTUGUESE ARMY ARTILLERY OFFICER. EARLY IN HIS CAREER HE WORKED FOR THE GENERAL OVERSEAS AGENCY (AGENCIA GERAL DO ULTRAMAR). FREITAS THEN MOVED TO THE PRIVATE PORTUGUESE PETROLEUM FIRM, SACOR, WHERE HE WAS DIRECTOR OF DISPUTES SERVICES AND WORKED WITH NOBRE DA COSTA (THEN SACOR ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR) TO INTEGRATE THE COMPANY AND OTHER PORTUGUESE PETROLEUM FIRMS. FREITAS ALSO SERVED AS ASSISTANT TO NOBRE DA COSTA WHEN THE LATTER WAS MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, BUT STAYED IN THE MINISTRY AFTER THE FALL OF THE FIRST CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT. HE IS EXPECTED TO BE THE GOVERNMENT'S LIAISON WITH THE ASSEMBLY.
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3. MINISTER OF DEFENSE: COL. MARIO FIRMINO MIGUEL. MIGUEL, 46, CONTINUES IN THE POST HE HAS HELD IN BOTH THE FIRST AND SECOND CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENTS. HE DEFENDS PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION IN NATO AND A NON-POLITICAL ROLE FOR THE PORTUGUESE ARMED FORCES.

4. MINISTER OF FINANCES AND PLANNING: DR. JOSE DA SILVA LOPES: LOPES, 46, AND CURRENTLY GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF PORTUGAL, HAS ALSO SERVED AS SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FINANCES IN THE FIRST PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE IN SUBSEQUENT PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENTS. PRIOR TO 1969, LOPES WAS AN ECONOMIST IN THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LISBON, AND AN ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO SHELL PORTUGUESE. HE IS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL ARCHITECTS OF CURRENT PORTUGUESE ECONOMIC POLICIES AND HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY CLOSE TO FORMER FINANCE MINISTER CONSTANCIO (WHO WILL NOW RETURN TO THE VICE GOVERNORSHIP OF THE BANK OF PORTUGAL.) THEIR RELATIONSHIP, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY STRAINED BY LOPES' ENTRY INTO THE NOBRE DA COSTA GOVERNMENT. WHETHER THIS STRAIN CONTINUES DEPENDS HEAVILY ON THE POLICY DECISIONS OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY.

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5. MINISTER FOR INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM: COL. ANTONIO GOMES GONCALVES RIBEIRO: RIBEIRO, 45, WAS RECENTLY PROMOTED TO FULL COLONEL IN THE PORTUGUESE ARMY. HE HAS BEEN PORTUGAL'S HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR DISPLACED PERSONS SINCE SEPTEMBER 1976. EARLIER, HE HAD MANAGED THE AIRLIFT OF ANGOLAN REGUGEES IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, 1975. RIBEIRO HAS COLLABORATED CLOSELY WITH THE EMBASSY. HE EMPHASIZES NEAT ORGANIZATION, CLEAR DECISIONS, GENUINE SOLUTIONS RATHER THAN PROBLEM EVASIONS AND FIRM ACTION TO ELIMINATE ABUSES. AS HIGH COMMISSIONER HE HAS EMPHASIZED DECENTRALIZATION AND READINESS TO HEAR PROBLEMS AND POINTS-OF-VIEW. HIS WORK WITH RETURNEES, ESPECIALLY THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S SMALL-LOAN PROGRAM, HAS GENERATED RESPECT EVEN FROM THE HARD-TO-PLEASE "RETORNADOS."

6. MINISTER OF JUSTICE:
DR. MARIO FERREIRA BASTOS RAPOSO: RAPOSO, 49 IS A FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE PORTUGUESE BAR ASSOCIATION. HE IS CONSIDERED LIBERAL AND DEMOCRATIC, AND IS THOUGHT TO HAVE PS SYMPATHIES. HE SERVED AS SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF FINANCE IN THE 1950'S. IN 1955 HE ENTERED PRIVATE PRACTICE, SPECIALIZING IN COMMERCIAL AND MARITIME LAW, ON WHICH HE HAS WRITTEN EXTENSIVELY. RAPOSO HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN PORTUGUESE HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES AND SERVED ON THE PORTUGUESE COMMITTEE WHICH HOSTED THE 1977 WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST APARTHEID, RACISM, AND COLONIALISM IN LISBON.

7. MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: ENGR. CARLOS JORGE MENDES CORREIA GAGO: GAGO, 44, IS PRESIDENT OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF PETROGAL. HE WAS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE TECHNICAL SECTION OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (ECONOMIC PLANNING DEPARTMENT) UNDER CAETANO. GAGO WAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE
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TOR IN PETROSUL BEFORE THE COMPANY'S MERGER WITH OTHER PETROLEUM FIRMS. GAGO RECEIVED A DEGREE IN INDUSTRIAL ADMINISTRATION FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON AND ALSO STUDIED IN FRANCE AND THE U.S. HE WAS A 1974 IVP GRANTEE. HE IS A FELLOW OF THE WORLD BANK INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. GAGO HAS BEEN INTIMATELY INVOLVED WITH THE SINES PORT AND REFINERY COMPLEX SCHEDULED TO GO ON STREAM IN OCTOBER. GIVEN HIS SENSITIVITY TO PETROLEUM PROBLEMS HE WILL LIKELY TAKE MORE INTEREST IN MIDDLE-EASTERN ISSUES. HIS MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE WILL ALSO BE NEEDED AS THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CONTINUES THE INTERNAL REORGANIZATION OF ITS ASSISTANCE AGENCIES. THESE AGENCIES ARE PRIMARILY INVOLVED IN IMPLEMENTING COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH THE FORMER COLONIES. GAGO IS SAID TO BE AN INTELLECTUAL

OF MODERATE, PRAGMATIC, AND PRO-WESTERN VIEWS.

8. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES; PROF. DR. ALOLINARIO
JOSE BARBOSA DA CRUZ VAZ PORTUGAL. PORTUGAL, 48, WAS SECRETARY
OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE PS/
CDS GOVERNMENT. A VETERINARIAN, PORTUGAL IS KNOWN INTER-
NATIONALLY FOR HIS WORK IN ANIMAL NUTRITION. HE HAS HAD

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SEVERAL YEARS EXPERIENCE IN MOZAMBIQUE. HE IS CLOSE TO PRESIDENT EANES AND ALTHOUGH HE HAS MANY FRIENDS IN THE PS, HIS OWN POLITICAL TENDENCIES SEEM TO BE MORE CONSERVATIVE. VAZ PORTUGAL SHARES A STRONG INTEREST WITH THE PRIME MINISTER IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE. HE WILL LIKELY FAVOR TECHNICAL ORGANIZATIONAL DECISIONS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE PRODUCTION EVEN WHEN THESE DECISIONS INVOLVE CONTROVERSIAL POLITICAL ISSUES; E.G. LAND MANAGEMENT IN THE ALENTEJO AND AGRICULTURAL CREDITS.

9. MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY: ENGR. FERNANDO AUGUSTO DOS SANTOS MARTINS: SANTOS MARTINS, 48, HOLDS DEGREES IN BOTH ENGINEERING AND ECONOMICS. HE WAS SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDUSTRY IN THE FIRST CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT. PRIOR TO HIS GOVERNMENT SERVICE, HE WAS DIRECTOR OF SEVERAL FIRMS, SUCH AS THE COMETAL/MOMITAL GROUP IN MOZAMBIQUE AND EQUIMETAL OF THE CUF CONGLOMERATE. HE HAS EXPRESSED TO EMBOFFS HIS BELIEF THAT ONLY A GOVERNMENT OF TECHNICIANS STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY THE PRESIDENT COULD TAKE THE DECISIONS NECESSARY TO ENSURE THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY. AT ONE TIME HE FAVORED WORLD BANK AND EC FINANCING AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR ANY IMF AGREEMENT. IN THE FIRST CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT MARTINS ENDED GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN A NUMBER OF NATIONALIZED FIRMS. HE FIRMLY ACCENTS THE NEED FOR MORE INVESTMENT, AN END TO GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN PRIVATE COMPANIES, STRONG MANAGEMENT, AND A MAJOR ROLE FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

10. MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM: ENGR. PEDRO JOSE PIRES DE MIRANDA: MIRANDA, BETWEEN 45 AND 50, IS AN ENGINEER WHO HAS HELD ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS IN SEVERAL PETROLEUM COMPANIES, INCLUDING BRITISH PETROLEUM, PETROSUL, SONAP AND THE BRAZILIAN
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PETROLEUM COMPANY, IMIRANGA. IN 1976 HE RETURNED FROM BRAZIL TO PORTUGAL TO BECOME ADMINSTRATOR OF PETROGAL. HIS MAJOR PROBLEM SINCE THEN HAS BEEN OBTAINING FUTURE MARKETS FOR THE SINES REFINERY'S PRODUCTS.

11. MINISTER OF LABOR: DR. ANTONIO SEIXAS DA COSTA LEAL:. LEAL, BETWEEN 50 AND 55, IS A GRADUATE FROM THE SUPERIOR INSTITUTE

OF ENGINEERING AND FINANCIAL SCIENCES. HE HAS WRITTEN
NUMEROUS MAGAZINE ARTICLES ON ECONOMICS. AT ONE TIME HE WAS
THE PRINCIPAL STATISTICIAN OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
STATISTICS. HE HAS SERVED AS AN ADMINISTRATOR IN THE CUF
CONGLOMERATE AND IN LISNAVE(PRIVATE SHIPBUILDING AND REPAIR FIRM),
AS A SECRETARY OF STATE FOR BUDGET, AND AS A VICE
GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF PORTUGAL. HE IS CURRENTLY PRESIDENT
OF THE ADMINSTRATIVE COUNCIL OF SETENAVE (LARGE NATIONALIZED
SHIPBUILDING AND REPAIR FIRM) AND VICE PRESIDENT
OF LISNAVE. ARRESTED AS BEING A "COMMUNIST" IN 1959, SOME
BELIEVE HE IS STILL SYMPATHETIC TO THE LEFTIST MOVEMENT,
THE MDP/CDE. HIS SELECTION IS PROBABLY A GESTURE TO THE PCP.

12. MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ENGR. CARLOS ALBERTO LLOYD BRAGA.
LLOYD BRAGA, 50, IS CURRENTLY RECTOR OF UNIVERSITY OF MINHO.
A BRILLIANT STUDENT, BRAGA GRADUATED IN CHEMICAL/INDUSTRIAL
ENGINEERING IN 1952. FROM 1953 TO 1957 HE STUDIED IN ENGLAND
ON SCHOLARSHIP AT THE NATIONAL PHYSICS LABORATORY, THEN LATER
IN THE ISOTOPIES SECTION OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH
ESTABLISHMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE. HE RECEIVED
HIS DOCTORATE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER, AFTER
WHICH HE WORKED FOR SEVERAL YEARS AS A NATO CONSULTANT IN
ATOMIC PHYSICS. IN THE 1950'S HE WENT TO MOZAMBIQUE WHERE
HE HELD VARIOUS HIGH-LEVEL POSTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF
LOURENCO MARQUES.

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13. MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS: DR. ACACIO PEREIRA MAGRO. DURING THE FIFTH PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT, MAGRO WAS NAMED TO THE BOARD OF A LARGE FINANCIALLY DISTRESSED COMPANY. THE FIRM REPORTEDLY HAS IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY UNDER HIS MANAGEMENT. HE HAS BEEN LABELED A LEFTIST BECAUSE OF HIS WORK IN THE FOURTH PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WITH SUCH ECONOMISTS AS JOAO CRAVINHO. AT THAT TIME HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE ADHOC COMMITTEE CONCERNED WITH GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION OF PRIVATE COMPANIES. THE ATTEMPT BY THE PS TO CREATE A NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE IN THIS MINISTRY WAS A BONE OF CONTENTION BETWEEN THE PS AND THE CDS. SINCE NOBRE DA COSTA IS UNLIKELY TO PUSH FOR A NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, THE APPOINTMENT OF A PERSON WITH LEFTIST LEANINGS MAY BE AN ATTEMPT TO MOLLIFY THE PS.

14. MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS: ENGR. AMILCAR JOSE DE GOUVEIA MARQUES. A MINING ENGINEER, MARQUES, 61, IS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF NOBRE DA COSTA. IN 1950, AFTER WORKING AS A MINING ENGINEER, HE WAS NAMED GENERAL TECHNICAL DIRECTOR FOR THE LEIRIA CEMENT COMPANY. IN 1975 HE WAS NAMED PRESIDENT OF SIDERGURIA (NATIONAL STEEL COMPANY). IN LATE 1974 AND EARLY 1975, MARQUES HELD THE PRESIDENCY OF THE PORTUGUESE AIRLINE, TAP, FOR SIX MONTHS. IN JUNE OF 1977 HE WAS NAMED PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PORTUGUESE RAILWAYS.

15. MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HOUSING: ENGR. JOAO ORLINDO

ALMEIDA PINA. PINA, 52, A RETIRED MILITARY ENGINEER, WAS MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS IN THE FIRST CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT. PRIOR TO THAT, HE HAD BEEN PRESIDENT OF THE PORTUGUESE HIGHWAY BOARD AND, EARLIER, A MILITARY CONFIDENTIAL

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ENGINEER IN MOZAMBIQUE, WHERE HE SUPERVISED CONSTRUCTION OF PORTUGUESE MILITARY INSTALLATIONS. HE ADMIRES THE U.S. AND CLAIMS TO BE NON-POLITICAL.

16. COMMENT:

NOBRE DA COSTA HAS RELIED RATHER HEAVILY ON HIS AND THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL FRIENDSHIPS TO FORM THE THIRD CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT. THESE CABINET MEMBERS, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO WORKED CLOSELY WITH NOBRE DA COSTA IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY DURING THE FIRST CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT, ARE LIKELY TO CONSTITUTE THE HEART OF HIS GOVERNMENT. MOST OF THE GROUP SHARES SEVERAL CHARACTERISTICS. THEY ARE RELATIVELY YOUNG (MID 40'S TO 50), STUDIED ENGINEERING OR ECONOMICS, PURSUED THEIR PRE-REVOLUTION CAREERS IN LARGE INDUSTRIES (PRINCIPALLY PETROLEUM), HAVE EXTENSIVE AFRICAN (PARTICULARLY MOZAMBIKAN) AND OTHER FOREIGN EXPERIENCE, ARE WELL DISPOSED TOWARD THE US AND SHARE A COMMON BELIEF IN THE NEED FOR DECISIVE ACTION AND A STRONG PRESIDENTIAL ROLE. THE STRONG PROFESSIONAL TIES TO THE NATIONAL PETROLEUM AND STEEL SECTORS WILL HAVE A SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE ON THEIR DECISIONS REGARDING INVESTMENT POLICIES, THE ROLE OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES, ETC. GENERALLY, THEY ARE POLITICALLY CONSERVATIVE, BUT THEY ACCEPT SUBSTANTIAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION IN THE PRODUCTIVE SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY. TO THIS GROUP, NOBRE DA COSTA ADDED INDIVIDUALS DESIGNED TO SATISFY SPECIFIC GROUPS, E.G. SILVA LOPES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL COMMUNITY AND COSTA LEAL FOR THE POLITICAL LEFT. THEY MAY TANGLE WITH THE MINISTERS CLOSE TO NOBRE DA COSTA. THUS THE OVERALL APPEARANCE OF HOMOGENEITY OF THE CABINET COULD BE SUPERFICIAL. LEADERS OF THE THREE DEMOCRATIC PARTIES HAVE EXPRESSED PRIVATE CONCERNS TO US THAT THE CABINET MAY LACK THE NECESSARY IDEOLOGICAL COHESION TO DEVELOP A UNIFIED APPROACH TO CURRENT ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS.

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